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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TERRY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

Washington, DC, September 8, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable Lee Terry to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day. J. Dennis Hastert,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:
Lord God, may Your grace and peace permeate this Chamber. Let the atmosphere of this fall session encourage lively debate, but always with mutual respect. May everyone's work reveal gracious manners and a manifest personal kindness. Fill this place with spoken wisdom and attentive listening.

May daily work, various conversations and structured meetings bring personal satisfaction, prove productive for the American people, and give You glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Solis) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Solis led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TV AFFECTS SEXUAL BEHAVIOR OF TEENS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the programs that teenagers watch on television affect their behavior. Advertisers have known this for years and have cashed in on it.

This week, we have a better idea of how television takes hold of our young people. A Rand Corporation study recently found that children who watch a lot of TV with sexual content are twice as likely to be sexually active as those with little exposure to televised sexual behavior.

Sexuality is pervasive on television, present in more than two-thirds of all programming from innuendoes to actual depictions. Kids become absorbed with the characters in their favorite shows and begin to model their behavior. They are simply doing what their role models do. Sadly, the study found that doing what their favorite characters do results in regret, and they cited television as a factor in influencing their behavior.

In a culture increasingly devoid of positive role models, television is filling the void; and many parents are dropping the ball. Excessive exposure to television hurts our kids. Parents need to turn off the TV before more damage is done to our Nation's kids.

DISGRACEFUL STATEMENTS BY VICE PRESIDENT

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, Divider, Chapter 1: Yesterday, the Vice President of the United States said, "It is absolutely essential that 8 weeks from today on November 2 we make the right choice, because if we make the wrong choice, then the danger is that we will get hit again."

Besides being outrageous, the Vice President mocked the word "sensitive" used by Senator Kerry several weeks ago. He took it out of context. Measuring, he is going to tell us what toughness is. He is the evaluator of what "toughness" means. If that is not the biggest joke.

The choices we are making here in this body will determine the safety and the security of the American people, not partisan, political rhetoric on the campaign trail. And that is why we need to act now together, not divided, to implement the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. Campaigns are no excuse for questioning the patriotism or the motivations of the other side. In campaigns you are supposed to air what you feel about a particular subject.

This is a disgraceful act. I did not serve in the service to listen to this garbage.

HOMEOWNERSHIP AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, homeownership in America is at an all-time high. Republicans should be proud of this achievement, as we have worked along with President George W. Bush to make it easier for all families to afford their own home.

We passed tax cuts for all Americans allowing them to keep more of their own money. We passed the American

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

